

I hereby respectfully submit the following testimony regarding Connecticut Legislature's firearm bills for 2022.

I am a veteran, the son of a veteran, the son-in-law of a veteran and the father of a veteran. We all served our country to defend the Constitution. Every legal gun owner that I know follows all safety guidelines and laws to the fullest. It saddens me each year that politicians in this state try to take more and more of my rights away.

Article I, Section 15 of the Connecticut State Constitution states: **Every citizen has a right to bear arms in defense of himself and the state.**

I OPPOSE SB 16 and HB 5416 due to their infringement on rights guaranteed by both the state and federal Constitution.

[S.B. 16 AN ACT ADDRESSING GUN VIOLENCE AND JUVENILE CRIME](#)

This bill is unnecessary. **There are enough laws (too many) in the state now to prevent persons to illegally obtain firearms if they choose to follow the law.**

A simple single action revolver, knife, hammer or a motor vehicle is just as deadly as an assault weapon if the criminal has the intent to kill. Ghost guns and assault weapon labels are a means to restrict people's rights.

Restrictions on where firearms can be carrying creates all kinds of the complications for law abiding gun owners. It is much better for someone to keep their firearm on their person responsibly then having to go back and forth between storing it securely somewhere but unattended.

Allowing law enforcement to ask for papers without probable cause as per the language in this bill is a violation of the US Constitution 4th Amendment – "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, **against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated**, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized."

[H.B. 5416 AN ACT CONCERNING BULK PURCHASES OF PISTOLS AND REVOLVERS](#)

Following the logic of this bill, why not limit the number of beers people can buy at a time due to alcoholism, DUI accidents / deaths and underage drinking issues? We have seen box cutters, fertilizer trucks, vehicles driving through crowds and explosives cause multiple deaths as well. Why not restrict buying a set of steak knives?

Criminals do not follow gun laws, this will do nothing to stop persons who are bent on doing other people harm, just take more rights away from law abiding citizens. We need to prosecute criminals and remove them from society if they intend to do people harm.

[S.B. 388 AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEFENSE OF A PERSON OR A PERSON'S DWELLING, PLACE OF WORK OR MOTOR VEHICLE](#)

Fully support this bill. Everyone has the right to defend oneself. There are too many victims of violence in this state and criminals who face limited consequences.

[H.B. 5415 AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRANSFER OF ASSAULT WEAPONS AND LARGE CAPACITY MAGAZINES](#)

I agree with this Statement of Purpose: To allow the legal transfer of an assault weapon possessed under a certificate of possession and large capacity magazines possessed under a declaration of possession **between people who already legally possess such weapons or magazines.**

[H.B. 5412 AN ACT CONCERNING THE DUTY TO RETREAT IN A RELIGIOUS HOUSE OF WORSHIP](#)

I agree with this Statement of Purpose: To eliminate the requirement that a person in a house of religious worship retreat before using deadly physical force to defend himself or herself or a third person. This will save lives, slow down the attacker.

Signed

John Buckley

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